

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-10 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 09229

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PLOS, RP
SUBJECT: LOS: ATTENDANCE AT RESUMED LOS SEVENTH SESSION
AND GOP POSITION RE ARCHIPELAGIC WATERS

REF: STATE 134431

SUMMARY: FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER SECRETARY INGLES INDICATES
GOP WILL ATTEND RESUMED SESSION, THOUGH PERHAPS WITH DELE-
GATION REDUCED IN SIZE AND STATURE. HE ALSO SEES "ROOM
FOR COMPROMISE" BETWEEN GOP AND US POSITIONS. INDONESIAN
AMBASSADOR HERE, FORMERLY KEY OFFICIAL IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS,
IS CONFIDENT PHILIPPINES WILL ACCEPT PRESENT ICNT TEXT ON
ARCHIPELAGIC WATERS, SUBJECT PERHAPS TO MINOR CHANGES.
END SUMMARY.

1. DURING A CALL ON DFA UNDERSECRETARY INGLES JUNE 2,
CHARGE ENCOURAGED FULL AND HIGH-LEVEL GOP PARTICIPATION IN
RESUMED LOS SEVENTH SESSION BEGINNING AUGUST 21 (REFTEL).
INGLES REMARKED THAT PHILIPPINES HAD VOTED AGAINST AUGUST
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SESSION. HE NOTED ALSO THAT THREE RANKING GOP LOS
NEGOTIATORS (TOLENTINO, ABAD SANTOS AND MENDOZA) HAD ALL
RECENTLY BEEN ELECTED TO NEW INTERIM ASSEMBLY AND MIGHT
WELL BE OCCUPIED WITH PARLIAMENTARY SESSION DURING THAT
PERIOD. INGLES INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE HIMSELF WOULD
PROBABLY BE SENT TO REPRESENT THE GOP AT THE RESUMED LOS
SESSION.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO THE PHILIPPINE AMENDMENT TO ICNT PROVISIONS RELATING TO ARCHIPELAGIC STATES (GENEVA 7100; MANILA 8703), INGLES COMMENTED THAT THE GOP HAD RAISED SIMILAR RESERVATIONS LAST YEAR. HE EXPECTED ISSUE TO COME UP AGAIN AT THE RESUMED SESSION AND, AFTER NOTING GOP POSITION HAS LITTLE SUPPORT, REMARKED THERE IS "ROOM FOR COMPROMISE" BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINE AND U.S. POSITIONS. ASKED ABOUT NATURE OF COMPROMISE, INGLES SIMPLY NOTED THAT THE PROPOSAL FOR A COMPROMISE HAS TO BE APPROVED BY PRESIDENT MARCOS BEFORE IT CAN BE PUT FORWARD.

3. LATER IN DAY, CHARGE HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR SOEDARMONO. (BEFORE ASSIGNMENT TO MANILA, SOEDARMONO WAS ONE OF KEY INDONESIAN OFFICIALS DEALING WITH LOS MATTERS; WHILE NO LONGER INVOLVED IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS, HE FOLLOWS SUBJECT AND GOP POSITION WITH CARE AND INTEREST). HE SAID THERE IS "NO DOUBT" THAT PHILIPPINES WILL COME ROUND TO ACCEPTING PRESENT ICNT PROVISIONS RE ARCHIPELAGIC WATERS, SUBJECT PERHAPS TO MINOR COSMETIC CHANGES. IN HIS VIEW, GOP EFFORTS TO AMEND ICNT ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY "FOR THE RECORD" I.E. TO BE ABLE TO CLAIM IN FUTURE THAT GOP MADE STRONG EFFORT TO GET CHANGES BEFORE AGREEING TO TEXT ACCEPTABLE TO LARGE MAJORITY OF UN MEMBERSHIP, INCLUDING MOST MAJOR POWERS AND OTHER ARCHIPELAGIC STATES. TOUSSAINT
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